

From: Chuck Bell
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 3:01pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Microsoft has its market share because they offer the best product for a very fair price. If Microsoft had been prevented from competing with Novell when Microsoft integrated networking software into the operating system, we would still be paying Novell \$2,000 per computer for networking software. The high cost of the networking software would still be holding the market back, not allowing the hardware prices to drop also. If Microsoft had been prevented from competing with Novell we would not have a public internet today because small companies and individuals could not afford local area networks. Yes, it is true Microsoft's competition hurt Novell's and other company's profit margin. But it is not true that Microsoft's competition has ever harmed consumers.

Despite the fact that harm to the consumer was never adequately addressed in the lawsuit Microsoft is willing to make concessions. They can do this because they can compete on the value of their products.

Microsoft was the driving force in the super charged economy of the 90's. The inexpensive products, packed with new features, they brought to consumers and businesses allowed an explosion in productivity.

For the sake of consumers worldwide and the U.S. economy, stop pandering to the existing monopolies and allow Microsoft to compete with them!

Thank you for hearing my comments.

Chuck Bell
Duvall, Washington
bellchuck@hotmail.com

Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: <http://messenger.msn.com>